

# **WHAT'S YOUR VISION?**

Our vision is a world where individuals who are blind or visually impaired are empowered with opportunities to work and thrive.

We are grateful for educators like Laurie Cremmen of Brockton Public Schools who work with children and teens to create future visions that include career success.



#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Learn about virtual opportunities to connect, including <u>Caregiver Support Week</u>.

### MCB STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Meet a social worker who transformed her vision loss into a career helping seniors.

### **ANNUAL JOB FAIR**

Save the date! Meet and interview with MCB's employer partners on Friday, Oct.1!

#### **COMMUNITY INSPIRATION**

A young woman from Springfield survived trauma to become a community advocate.

# MCB'S DEAFBLIND EXTENDED SUPPORTS UNIT (DBES)

Learn more about the services available for individuals who are DeafBlind in Massachusetts via the DBES team vlog.

# **WELCOME**

Join our next <u>Virtual Town Hall</u> on Thursday, October 7, 2021 from Noon to 1 pm ET.



A Vision for the Future: Strengthening Connections with the Blindness Community

MCB continues to deliver services despite COVID-19 thanks to the resilience of our team and community. We recognize the challenges and opportunities of meeting virtually, and we hope to resume meeting in person when it is safe to do so.

Our Regional Directors play an important

# STAKEHOLDER UPDATE

The Audio Journal worked with Worcester Polytechnic Institute students to engage with listeners in a new way by developing their first iOS phone app.

role at MCB to manage regional teams, form local partnerships, share regional resources, and host community-based events.

<u>Listen or watch our Virtual Town Hall</u> to learn more.

# **NEED A CERTIFICATE OF BLINDNESS OR BLINDNESS ID?**

Call 617-626-7415 or email <u>BlindnessRegistry@mass.gov</u>. Connect with the <u>Virtual Blindness</u> <u>Registry</u> via phone or computer on Monday thru Friday from 10 am to 1 pm ET.

### **COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION**

MCB is working closely with the COVID-19 Command Center to share your vaccine inquiries and provide connections to stakeholders such as <u>MABVI</u> that are providing transportation assistance. Our counselors are assisting individuals with registration, and our AT team is reviewing digital tools for screen reader accessibility. Our O&M team contributed to the training manual for mass vaccination site staff. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your MCB counselor if you need further assistance.

Last week, the MBTA added two additional trips per month through July to all balances for customers of the <a href="On-Demand Paratransit Pilot Program with Uber, Lyft, and Curb">On-Demand Paratransit Pilot Program with Uber, Lyft, and Curb</a> for vaccine appointments. This is in addition to the two trips announced previously.

A current timeline and eligibility guidance for the vaccination of all individuals in the Commonwealth is available at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine">https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine</a>.

Preregister online for an appointment by visiting <a href="https://vaccinesignup.mass.gov/#/">https://vaccinesignup.mass.gov/#/</a>. In-home vaccinations for homebound individuals continue. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-homebound-vaccination-program">https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-homebound-vaccination-program</a>.

Call the Massachusetts Vaccine Scheduling Resource Line during its hours of operation on Monday to Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., as well as Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Call 2-1-1 toll-free or connect directly via 877-211-6277.

Next week is "Red Sox Week at the Hynes" with 20,000 first-dose vaccine appointments at the Hynes Convention Center mass vaccination site in Boston reserved for communities of color. More info is available at <a href="https://cic-health.com/redsox/elmundo1">https://cic-health.com/redsox/elmundo1</a>.









Massachusetts Commission for the Blind | Mass.gov/mcb